

Mt. Lebanon Sports Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2021 - 8:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Amanda Rost called the meeting to order, and David Donnellan called the roll. The meeting was attended by board members Stacie Hill, Megan O'Brakta, Kristen Reisinger, Kari Resler, Amanda Rost, Shelly Saba and Ian Smith.

The meeting was also attended by Commissioner Mindy Ranney, Junior Board Member, Mia Flaherty, and Recreation Director David Donnellan.

Ed Cipriano, Lynn Hagan, Tom Langston, Katie Sharon, Stephen Strotmeyer and Chad Wertz were absent.

2. Citizen Comments

There were no citizen comments.

3. Approval of the April 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were approved as submitted.

4. Commissioner Report

Junior Commissioner, Mia Flaherty was introduced. The board members and liaisons introduced themselves and reviewed their roles.

Commissioner Ranney reported that the Vibrant Uptown construction project, which includes sidewalks, lighting, conduit and options for outdoor events and dining would continue until April of next year. She said businesses would be open throughout the project.

She reported that the Parks Master Plan consultants were working towards a January deadline for completion, but the Commission believes that is too ambitious.

She reported that departments are working on 2022 budgets.

Mr. Donnellan said that the board's project prioritization was noted in the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), but if there were any changes in those

priorities they could be discussed with the Commission during the upcoming budget discussions.

5. Field Census Survey

Ms. Rost said that data from each sports organization had been received and she is compiling the numbers. She said she hopes this information can be considered in the Parks Master Plan.

The board discussed the condition of various fields after significant rainfall. The consensus was that Bird, Mellon and Foster were among the worst.

6. Recreation Center Feasibility Study/Parks Master Plan

Several site visits to our parks and recreational facilities were conducted with the consultants and the project team.

It was noted that a conversion of Bird Park athletic field to synthetic turf could help control stormwater and improve the stream conditions.

It was also shared that the community survey had strong participation from residents.

Results of the survey and site visits were shared with the Commission last month. A first draft of recommendations to Commission is planned prior to November budget meetings

Kari Ressler reported that due to space limits at the pool, Mt. Lebanon Aqua Club has a maximum of 200 participants for all ages combined.

Commissioner Ranney highlighted some areas of interest from the survey.

Dale Cable shared that he helped with the Sports Advisory Board's Preliminary Report on Recreation Center Feasibility. He said a recreation center would serve all ages, and that the community's that were visited as part of the Sports Advisory Board's initial research said their recreation centers were a community asset.

Mr. Donnellan announced that organizations who pledged donations towards the study should send their donations to the recreation department at this time.

7. Pickleball Update

Mr. Donnellan reported that the contractor made an effort to resurface the courts, but it was not satisfactory. He said the municipality is waiting for the contractor to propose a solution.

He also reported that signs were posted at the courts stating that the school district has exclusive use of the courts on school days from 11a.m. – 2 p.m.

8. New Business

- a. Amanda Rost inquired about the status of the request by field hockey to install semi-permanent lines on the turf on Cedar. Mr. Donnellan explained that while temporary lines are permitted when installed by an approved contractor, semi-permanent paint is not. He said that field hockey was not able to find an approved installer despite efforts to assist them. Stacie Hill said she was waiting for an individual from the soccer association to provide some training for her, so that she could be approved to paint lines on the turf.

It was agreed that Ms. Hill would contact Mr. Donnellan to schedule time on the turf for lining the field.

- b. Ms. Rost suggested that temporary lighting be considered for fields. It was agreed that this would be helpful, but there were also concerns regarding noise, security, disturbing neighbors, and possible damage to the fields.

Mr. Donnellan reported that a lighting project for the turf was proposed in the CIP for 2023 in conjunction with the replacement of the turf.

- c. Mia Flaherty asked about the board's priorities and timeline. Ms. Rost said the board has a prioritized list of improvement projects that was completed earlier in the year, so that it could be included in the CIP.

9. Announcements

- a. Amanda Rost announced that the Sports Advisory Board and Parks Advisory Board will be holding a joint meeting on Tuesday, September 7, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Building to discuss the Parks Master Plan/Recreation Center Feasibility Study with the consultants.
- b. Other Announcements- David Donnellan announced that the recreation department is hiring a learn to skate coordinator, skate guards, maintenance, and cashiers. He said candidates can apply through our website.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.